

### ***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid encoding the protein of SEQ ID NO:15.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid is involved in the production of a hydrolytic enzyme.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid is expressed in the a dehiscence zone of a plant.

Claim 4 (currently amended): An ~~The~~ isolated nucleic acid ~~of claim 1~~ encoding a protein wherein the protein:

- a) ~~comprises the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:15;~~
- b) ~~has one or more amino acid deletions, insertions or substitutions relative to SEQ ID NO:15 a protein as defined in a) above,~~ and has at least 80% amino acid sequence identity therewith, wherein said nucleic acid is expressed in the dehiscence zone of a plant.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 which comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:14 ~~SEQ ID NO:15~~ or a fragment thereof which is at least 30 bases long.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 which is expressed in the dehiscence-zone in combination with one or more further nucleic acid sequence.

Claim 7 (previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid which is antisense to the nucleic acid of claim 1.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1 including a promoter or other regulatory sequence which controls expression of the nucleic acid.

Claim 9 (withdrawn)

Claim 10 (previously presented): A vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 1.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A cell transformed with the nucleic acid of claim 1.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The transformed cell of claim 11 which is a plant cell.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A process for obtaining a cell comprising introducing the nucleic acid of claim 1 into said cell.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A plant or a part thereof comprising a cell as claimed in claim 12.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A process of propagating material or a seed comprising growing the cell of claim 12.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A process for obtaining a plant or plant part comprising obtaining a cell of claim 11 and growing said cell.

Claims 17-24 (withdrawn)

Claim 25 (previously presented): The isolated nucleic acid of claim 4 wherein said nucleic acid is a probe.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A process for producing a cell, tissue, plant part thereof or propagating material comprising the nucleic acid as claimed in claim 1 into a cell, tissue, plant part thereof or propagating material and causing growth of said cell, tissue, plant part thereof or propagating material.

Claim 27 (cancelled)

Claims 28-29 (withdrawn)

Claim 30 (cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:14.

Claim 32 (new): An isolated nucleic acid expressed in the dehiscence zone of a plant comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) SEQ ID NO:14; and
- b) a sequence that is 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:14, and that is expressed in the dehiscence zone of a plant.